

Commercial Advertiser

WALTER G. SMITH - - EDITOR

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AMERICAN FORTUNES.

Men in middle life remember when the great American millionaire, the man most widely talked about, was A. T. Stewart, the merchant prince of New York. He had a fortune of \$20,000,000 and that was more money than any other citizen of the United States then possessed or had ever before accumulated. The Astors had a little more collectively and the founder of the house of Vanderbilt had a little less, but Stewart headed the list of individual millionaires.

At the present day, thirty years beyond the prime of Stewart, Andrew Carnegie gives away more than \$20,000,000 in a year and has a fortune of ten times that sum to draw upon. John D. Rockefeller's income is said to be as large as Stewart's principal. Beside the fortunes piled up in mountain ridges by J. Pierpont Morgan, the accumulations of New York's merchant prince of the early seventies look like a molehill. It is doubtful if the estates of the Rothschilds could tower so high as Morgan's pile.

But what of thirty years hence? We are close to the advent of the American billionaire now; will it then be the American trillionaire?

Wilcox tells his dupes that if he is elected, none but Hawaiians will get office. Those who believe him forget several things, as, for instance, that the appointing power for Territorial offices will remain, as before, in the hands of the Governor and his heads of departments, and that the Federal appointments have all been made. Furthermore, Wilcox's own record is not clear in respect to Hawaiian preferences. The first youth he sent to Annapolis was a white boy from Connecticut whose father happened to be stationed here for some time in command of a navy tug. The appointment of a second Judge of the First Circuit was left to him and he endorsed Gear. When a third judgeship came up he pressed the claims of Cayless, another haole. When there was a vacancy in the office of United States Marshal he recommended Hendry and he did not oppose Mr. Breckons of Wyoming for United States District Attorney. Every time there has been a chance to get a really good thing for an Hawaiian, Wilcox has turned to a white man. From a mouth like his, this talk of Hawaii for the Hawaiians comes with very ill grace.

The new Fair estate contest promises to turn on the same question as that which came up a few years ago in the case of the Berkeley professor and his wife who were drowned in the wreck of the Pacific Mail liner Colima—which of them died first? If Charles Fair was the first to pass into the other world, his wife became the legatee, either in the absence or presence of a will, of a large share of his ten million dollar estate, and her heirs must get the property. On the other hand if she died first her rights lapsed to her husband and to her issue by the Fair marriage if she had any. The chaffeur who escaped the wreck remembers that both the Fairs moved after being thrown to the ground, but he does not know which one moved last. He may, however, remember all about the affair after he has been interviewed by the attorneys for the plaintiff.

One is easily reconciled to the death of anybody who imperils the lives of others by running an automobile on the highway at the speed of a railway train but comes to grief himself before killing them. The taking off of the Fairs was sudden and terrible, but they had no business to be making forty miles an hour on a country road and if their deaths result in teaching other auto-owners, especially those of Newport, that the public has rights which they are bound to respect, the affair at Pacy-sur-Eure will be recalled with only a perfunctory feeling of regret.

One of the things that make trusts obnoxious is the army of people they throw out of work. The formation of the \$120,000,000 merger of agricultural machinery is followed by the statement that 10,000 men will lose their positions. One may well doubt that there will be any general compensation in the shape of lower prices for the wares produced. Judging from the course of the beef trust prices are more likely to go up.

Tracy and Lombardo went about the same time. Of the two, Lombardo was the most notorious, his career as a brigand having extended over many years and been fraught with innumerable crimes of every degree. Not long ago the other Italian chief bandit, Musolino, was imprisoned for life and so, with the two of them out of the way, back country travel in Italy will gain in safety what it loses in romance.

Consul Saito has put the people of this Territory under further obligations to him by urging his countrymen, the resident Japanese, to cease using the small-meshed fishing nets. If the next Legislature will take a step beyond and forbid the use of such nets altogether, a few years hence fish will again be plentiful and cheap in island markets. Otherwise it is conceivable that our fish resources will be exhausted.

Fires usually come in waves like sul-
phur and regular phases of crime. This
seems to be a fire period and so the
public, for its own defence, should keep
an especially sharp lookout. Recently
there have been no outbreaks in the

residence portion of the city but any day may see one start.

Buller must wish he were half as popular in England as the visiting Boer Generals are.

If Hawaii had a Delegate who knew his business, it would be possible to get a regiment of regulars permanently garrisoned here.

Let us hope that the sampling expedition to Marcus Island will not end in the Japanese taking samples of Captain Rosehill back to Tokyo.

By deferring the date of ex-Senator Thurston's speech the Republicans of the other islands, attending the convention, will have a chance to hear it.

It has long been suspected that New York's electrocuted murderers died of the autopsy rather than the shock, but it did not matter, greatly, so long as they died.

Dashing for the North Pole is a good deal like a fox hunt. There is a lot of wear and tear, and often a fatality and when the fox is run down nobody does anything with it.

Milk may be adulterated ten per cent. Chinese—and judges—may kill police who raid their gambling dens without search warrants. People crossing streets have no rights that hackmen are bound to respect. Success to crime.

The first fruit of Gear's latest Success to Crime decision is an assault upon a policeman by three Chinese. They found the officer on the veranda of their house, without a search-warrant, putting on his shoes. Apparently knowing their legal rights they assaulted him with clubs. It is getting so that a policeman needs an escort in Chinatown.

Seattle pays better prices for Hawaiian products than does San Francisco. Both bananas and pineapples have brought such high prices there as to induce the wish that Honolulu had direct and regular communication with all the Sound ports. At San Francisco, which has steamers from the Mexican and Central American coasts and fast freight from New Orleans, tropical products are a drug on the market, while on the Sound there is hardly supply enough to meet the demand.

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- 7—Building site at Kamohili, fronting on proposed extension of Rapid Transit to Kaimuki, area one acre.
- 8—Three building lots on Kaahae avenue and opposite the Experimental Station at Makiki.
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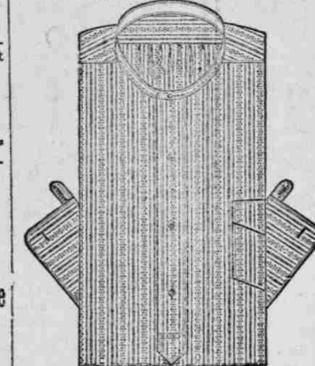
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